

## **U.S. Congresswoman Lauren Underwood to join high profile speakers at global nursing congress**

**Geneva, Switzerland; 18 May 2021** – United States Congresswoman Lauren Underwood will be a keynote speaker at the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress to be held virtually 2-4 November 2021.

A registered nurse and United States Congresswoman serving Illinois' 14th Congressional District, Lauren Underwood is the first woman, the first person of colour, and the first millennial to represent her community in Congress. She is also the youngest African American woman to serve in the United States House of Representatives.

Congresswoman Underwood serves on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and the House Committee on Appropriations. She co-founded and co-chairs the Black Maternal Health Caucus, which elevates the Black maternal health crisis within Congress and advances policy solutions to improve maternal health outcomes and end disparities. She also serves on the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee. Rep. Underwood is a member of the Future Forum, a group of young Democratic Members of Congress committed to listening to and standing up for the next generation of Americans, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), and the LGBT Equality Caucus. As a strong supporter of addressing the gun violence epidemic, Congresswoman Underwood is a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force.



Prior to her election to Congress, Congresswoman Underwood worked with a Medicaid plan in Chicago to ensure that it provided high-quality, cost-efficient care. She served as a Senior Advisor at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, helping communities across the country prevent, prepare for, and respond to disasters, bioterror threats, and public health emergencies. She helped implement the Affordable Care Act, broadening access for those on Medicare, improving health care quality, and reforming private insurance. Congresswoman Underwood also taught future nurse practitioners through Georgetown University's online master's programme.

An interview with Congresswoman Underwood by ICN CEO Howard Catton can be seen [here](#).

Congresswoman Underwood joins other confirmed keynote speakers, Her Royal Highness Princess Muna al-Hussein and former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Helen Clark. Read more [here](#).

In partnership with the Emirates Nursing Association, the ICN 2021 Congress will bring together thousands of nurses from across the globe in a virtual event and will build on the vital

contribution of nurses in the battle for health and well-being across the entire world. Using the theme '**Nursing Around the World**', ICN will pass the nursing baton across the different regions in a series of live and interactive events that will give its members the opportunity to showcase their expertise and innovations throughout the world.

Early bird rates for registration to Congress are open until 9 June. Participants will receive full access to all official Congress sessions: full access to e-posters, partner and industry symposia; full access to online chat and other virtual networking areas; automatic allocation of continuing education credits (ICNECs) and full access to sessions after the event for a period of six months. To register before the **9 June Early Bird deadline**, go to: <https://icncongress2021.org/registration/>

Further information and regular updates on the Congress programme are available on the Congress website: [www.icncongress2021.org](http://www.icncongress2021.org)

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#### **Note to Editors**

The **International Council of Nurses** (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality care for all and sound health policies globally.

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